

CLERK: Mr. President, I have had nothing come in on it...I did have an amendment from Senator Schmit that was printed in the Legislative Journal on page 2400. Senator Schmit is yet to arrive. I have nothing further on the bill other than that amendment, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature...

PRESIDENT: May we have order in the Chamber please (gavel) and attention to our speakers. The Chair has recognized Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I do not like the bill, 626, and the reason that I don't like 626 is I am very concerned as to what is going to happen in agriculture in the State of Nebraska. However, at this time I am going to support 626 but I want to tell this body and put it in the record as the Ag Chairman I intend to have an interim study next year to follow through and see if agriculture has received their fair share of the loans, the loan funds, and everything else connected with the issue. I intend to compare what the other two funds received and compare with what ag received. I have talked to Don Dworak and he has assured me personally that the promotion of ag funds and bonds in outstate Nebraska be one of his top priorities. Mr. Dworak also assured me that if it doesn't work out that agriculture is getting their fair share, he will work with me to take agriculture out of the program if this happens. This is a complete reversal on my part and some people are going to say, "Rex, they threatened you with your Ag chairmanship", and my answer to that is, "I would like to have somebody threaten me about anything" because I will stand up on this floor and tell what the threat was about and besides that I will hit them right in the mouth. I have been told that this is a political issue but I want to tell you that Governor Kerrey has not called me. I have not talked to Bill Kerrey on this issue and I have not talked to General Hoppner on this issue. I have talked to Don Dworak on the issue. Now if there are some people in this body who feel they want to take the chairmanship away from me on account of this, sobeit, but I intend to represent agriculture to the best of my ability and right now I feel that we should be in the program and give it a try. I had an amendment to take agriculture out of this package and go it alone and I had some support for this. But then I decided let's try it. Now this is a tough and emotional decision for me but the only reason I am doing it is because of my concern